

374
Wilson
List No. 7.

DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LIST
OF
SEEDS & PLANTS

OF
Tropical Fruit Trees,
Vegetable & Food Products.

William & Richard,

Seedsman & Plant Merchants,

"Alexandra Gardens,"

COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Telegraphic Address:

"BOUQUET, COLOMBO."

Codes Used : A. B. C. (14th & 5th Editions) & A. I.

Telephone No. 778.

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TERMS.

1. **Payments.**—All orders must accompany Money Orders, Bank Drafts, or Letters of Credit to draw against Shipping Documents.
2. **Seeds & Bulbs by Post.**—Prices include cost of packing and all other charges to all countries where direct transmission can be made from Ceylon.
For minimum quantities of seeds supplied and the reductions made on larger quantities see opposite page.
3. **Plants by Freight.**—Prices do not include packing and other charges.
See opposite page for cost of same.
4. **Packing.**—Our long experience enables us to pack different kinds of seeds, plants, etc., according to their nature, to stand the transit well by post and steamer, and that our shipments have always reached their destination in perfect order; but all goods travel entirely at Purchaser's risk and account, and all our responsibility ceases as soon as they are delivered on steamer in good condition.
Every attention will be given in detail to orders, and a point made of careful packing and prompt despatch. Quality will be maintained and every effort made to secure continuous business.
5. **Correspondence.**—All communications should be written in the English language.

William & Richard,

Seedsman & Plant Merchants,

"ALEXANDRA GARDENS," COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Telegraphic Address:

"BOUQUET, COLOMBO."

PHONE No. 778.

Codes Used: A, B, C, (4th & 5th Editions) & A. I.

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William & Richard,

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"ALEXANDRA GARDENS", COLOMBO, CEYLON.

SEEDS & BULBS.

The prices quoted herein are for 100 Seeds or Bulbs, including cost of packing and postage, which may perhaps be found somewhat high. This is due to the heavy minimum postage for a small packet; but we shall be pleased to make the following reductions in prices for large orders:—

Not less than	500	Seeds or Bulbs	5%	Discount.
Do	1,000	"	10%	"
Do	10,000	"	15%	"
Do	20,000	"	20%	"
Do	25,000	"	25%	"

Not less than 50 Seeds or Bulbs supplied at 100 rates. 25% extra will be charged for lesser quantities than 100 of each variety.

PLANTS.

The most suitable way for shipping Plants is by planting in wardian cases, with glass sides, ventilators, &c. These are strongly made to last a long time. One of our standard cases

hold about 300 plants. Cost of a case is £1 10s. Packing, cartage, and other shipping charges, delivered free on board, is £1 per case.

One or several varieties may be ordered to make up a wardian case. The same reduction in prices as for Seeds will be allowed for Plants. Not less than 50 Plants supplied at 100 rates.

25% extra will be charged for lesser quantities than 100 of each variety.

Suckers, such as, Pine Apples, &c., could be forwarded in ventilated cases. One of these cases cost approximately £1 f.o.b. One case would hold about 1,000 shoots or suckers.

Tropical Fruit Trees.

Aberia Garneri—*Ceylon Gooseberry*. A small shrubby tree bearing large purple, velvety berries in clusters of the size and form of gooseberry; these have a pleasant acid taste, and make excellent jam or preserve. The fruit is in season during August and September. It is well worth cultivating.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Achras Sapota—*Sapodilla Plum, or Naseberry*. The round fruit is not unlike a smooth brown-skinned potato in appearance. A more luscious, cool, and agreeable fruit is not to be met with perhaps in any country in the world. The tree thrives up to 3,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100. Grafts 6s. each. All the year round bearing variety:
Seeds 15s. per 100. Plants £7 10s. per 100. Grafts 8s. each.

Ægle Marmelos—*Bengal Quince*. The fruit is globular with a hard woody, green shell, and varies in size from that of a cricket ball to a large melon. This is a well-known specific for dysentery, and almost all parts of the tree is largely used in native medicine. The wood is very suitable for making furniture.

Seeds 2s. per 100. Plants £2 10s. per 100.

Anacardium Occidentale—*Cashew Nut*. A handsome spreading tree with large leathery leaves. The seed when roasted is of a very agreeable taste, and is much relished for dessert, being considered by some superior to all other nuts ; it is in demand in Europe, to which it is exported largely for confectionery and flavouring purposes. All parts of the fruit are of various uses in medicine. The tree yields a gum which is obnoxious to insects, and is recommended for book-binding. The juice obtained from incisions in the bark form an indelible ink. The tree thrives up to 1,500 ft.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Ananas Sativus—*Pineapple*. The fruit is borne by a rigid stout stalk issuing from the centre of the plant ; the latter dies after maturing, the fruit being reproduced by suckers thrown out from the base. The fruit commence to ripen about 15 months from the time of planting the suckers. A return of about 5,000 fruits could be expected from an acre.

Varieties. A large number of varieties occur in cultivation, and different names are given in different countries. One of the most distinct and best variety is the "*Smooth Cayenne*", known in Ceylon as the *Kew Pine*. This bears luscious and juicy fruits, weighing from 10 to 20 lbs. or more. This variety has the additional merit of having spineless leaves. It is said to be the chief variety that commands the highest price in the London market.

Suckers £3 per 100, packed in ventilated cases.

Ripley Queen is the variety mostly grown for market in Ceylon. It is of a hardy nature, thriving in comparatively poor soil. Fruits weigh from 3 to 5 lbs. and over. Excellent flavour.

Suckers £2 per 100, packed in ventilated cases.

Special quotations for large orders.

Anona Muricata—*Soursop*. A small quick-growing shrubby tree, with fragrant laurel-like leaves. Large green fruits, weighing from 4 to 10 lbs., varies in form from the kidney-shaped to oval, and is covered with soft green prickles. The white rather woolly pulp is juicy, luciously sweet, suggesting the the flavour of pineapple, and is sometimes used for flavouring ices and in the preparation of pleasant cooling drinks. Thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Anona Reticulata—*Bullock's Heart*. A small bushy tree. The fruit is usually heart-shaped, sometimes round, 3 to 6 inches across. It contains sweet custard-like granular pulp. Thrives up to 3,000 ft. or higher.

Seeds and Plants same prices as above.

Anona Squamosa—*Custard Apple* or Sugar Apple. A small tree. The fruit is of the size of a fairly large apple and has a peculiar rind, which appears to be formed of scales; when ripe these latter break away separately exposing and partly adhering to the white granular, sweet, custard-like pulp. The flavour is better than all the other Anonas.

Seeds 6. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Anona Cherimolia—*Cherimoyer*. The large round fruit is 3 to 5 inches diameter, weighing 2 to 4 lbs., it somewhat resembles the custard apple. The Cherymoyer is described as one of the three finest fruits in the world. These fruits are sold in the London market up to 2s. 6d. each.

Seeds £1 per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Artocarpus Incisa—*Breadfruit*. One of the most handsome of tropical trees. It is a quick growing tree, bearing very large, shining, deeply cut leaves. The fruit is roundish or oval, 4 to 6 inches long 3 to 5 inches diameter, and produces in twos or threes at the end of the branches. The interior consists of a solid mass of white fleshy pulp, which when sliced and roasted is not unlike the crumb of a new loaf. As a vegetable for curries it is much esteemed by all, who enjoy these. It is also roasted, ground into flour, and prepared and used in various other ways. Breadfruit is said to form the principle article of diet of the natives of the South Sea Islands. When sliced and fried it is hardly distinguishable from an excellent batter pudding. The tree thrives up to 1,500 ft. Propagated by suckers from the roots.

Well rooted Suckers £ 20 per 100.

Artocarpus Integrifolia—*Jakfruit*. A very large tree. The enormous fruits, one of which may weigh up to 100 lbs. or more, are borne on the trunk and older branches, sometimes at the base of the trunk, or even underground. This forms a very important article of food. With the exception of the rind and core the whole of the fruit is eaten, the white or cream-coloured soft, flakey pulp being eaten either raw, boiled, or fried, and used as a vegetable or curries, etc. The large albuminous, date-like seeds are roasted and esteemed in curries. The timber is excellent for cabinet work, building, etc., and is much used in Ceylon. Lemon-yellow at first, it turns with age to a very dark tint like mahogany, to which it is but little inferior. A full grown tree is worth £5 and upwards for timber. Thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Ordinary Jak Seeds 4s. per 100.
Plants £3 per 100.

Honey Jak (the sweetest variety)—Seed 6s. per 100.
Plants £4 per 100.

Ornamental Jak—Small round fruits in clusters.
Seeds 5s. per 100.
Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Artocarpus Nobilis—*Wild Breadfruit*. A noble tree, with large leathery crimped or wavy, undivided leaves. The fruit is cone-like, 5 to 8 inches in length by $1\frac{1}{3}$ to 2 inches in diameter. It is similar in texture, though inferior to the breadfruit proper, and is used as food in various ways by the natives. It contains round white seed of the form of large peas, which are roasted and eaten. The tree thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Averrhoa Bilimbi—*Cucumber Tree*. A small fine foliaged tree, commonly cultivated in the Eastern tropics for its fruits. The latter is about 3 inches long, resembling a small green cucumber, and produced in clusters on the trunk and oldest branches; it is esteemed in pickles and preserves, and also used for making jam and cooling drinks. As an ingredient in curries the fruit is also much relished.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Averrhoa Carambola—*Karambola*. A small tree similar to the preceding species, but more ornamental in habit. The curious oval-shaped, winged fruit borne in great profusion gives the tree a striking effect. When ripe the fruit is semi-transparent, of a fine rich amber colour, very juicy, and of a sweet acid taste. Its principal culinary use is for making jelly, for which it is esteemed. The juice removes stain from linen, and is also commonly used for burnishing brass.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Canarium Communi—*Java Almond*. A large handsome tree, characterised by a remarkable buttressed trunk and laterally compressed aerial basal roots; the latter develop enormous erect flanges of uniform thickness, so that solid circular pieces may occasionally be cut out from them to form ready-made cart wheels. The tree is much cultivated for shade or ornament. It bears in great abundance large pendant clusters of dark-purple fruits, which are of the size of small plums; these are produced all the year round. The kernal of the fruit is edible, being similar in flavour to sweet almonds. It yields by expression an oil used for burning in lamps and for cooking purpose. A desirable tree for planting in avenues, etc. It thrives in hot and moist districts up to about 1,500 ft. elevation.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Carica Papaya—*Papaw or Tree Melon*. A fast growing, small, herbaceous, branchless, tree. It bears a crown of very large palmate leaves, at the base of which the large green fruits are produced. Each fruit weighs from 5 to 10 lbs. or more. The succulent flesh is very refreshing and agreeable to the taste. It is commonly used for dessert, and is considered an aid to digestion. It may also be made into jam or sauce, and in the unripe state may be pickled or boiled and used as a vegetable. The seeds have a flavour like that of water-cress, and are relished by some as a substitute for it. The milky juice (papaine) obtained from incisions made in the unripe fruit is used as a substitute for pepsin in medicine. An average of $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. papaine may be obtained per tree. Fair quality papaine fetch from 5s. to 8s. a lb. The property of the leaves in rendering meat tender is well known. The tree bears fruits continuously from the time it is about 10 months old. Thrives best in rich well-drained soil.

Seeds 2s. per 100. Plants £2 per 100.

Mountain Papaw. For high elevations from 2,000 ft. upwards only.

Seeds and Plants same prices as above.

Carissa Carandas—*A small tree.* The fruits when ripe much resemble a damson, both in size and colour. It is made into a pickle just before it is ripe; and is also used in tarts and pudding, being considered to resemble gooseberries in flavour. For these purposes it is said to be superior to any other Indian fruit. When ripe it makes a very good jelly. Suited to dry districts at low elevation.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Chrysobalanus Icaco—*Loco Plum.* A small spreading shrubby tree. It bears fruits of the size and shape of a plum, varying from round to egg-shape, with a purplish tender rind; the scanty white pulp adhering to the kernal is of an agreeable acid taste. The tree succeeds in the moist low-country up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 15s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Chrysophyllum Cainito—*Star apples.* A fairly large handsome tree. The purplish, smooth, round fruit when fully matured the white, transparent, jelly-like substance surrounding the seed is sweet and agreeable. The tree is also well worth cultivating for ornament or shade for roadside, etc. Thrives in deep, rich, and well drained soil.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Chrysophyllum Monopyrenum—*Date Palm.* As the vernacular name signifies, the fruit is similar in size and form to a date-fruit or a jak-seed, and suggests a damson in form and colour. The milky reddish pulp is edible and sweet.

Seeds 6s. per 100. Plants £4 10s. per 100.

Citrus Aurantium—The following are well-known among several other unimportant varieties of oranges:—

Mandarin—Loose and thin-skinned large fruits of deep colour, usually compressed at ends, very sweet.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Sweet Orange—Large oval fruits, first rate quality, pulp rich and juicy.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £4 10s. per 100.

Seville Orange—The finest marmalade is made from this orange.

Seeds 6s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Orange Grafts.—(Selected varieties.)

Coorg (called the Loose Jacket). Thin skinned fruits, very sweet, can be kept over a month after ripe without rotting. Excellent flavour. Grafts 4s. each.

Malta Blood—Fruits medium size, flesh stained with deep crimson, tree spineless.

Sathkedi—Fruit round, yellow with a pulp of white colour, very sweet and hardy. Grafts 4s. each.

Citrus Decumana—*Pumelo*. The fruit is valued for making jams, and is used for dessert. The globular large fruits measure from 6 to 9 inches in diameter; it thrives up to about 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Citrus Acida—*Lime*. The lime fruit is used by all races for flavouring and other culinary purposes, manufacturing cooling drinks, especially lime juice cordial. The tree thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation. Best Ceylon variety, large fruits.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

There are several other unimportant varieties.

Citrus Limetta—*Sweet Lime*. This is a distinct variety, the fruit of which is of the form of a moderate sized orange with small palegreen rind. It has a sweetish instead of acid taste, and is considered very refreshing and agreeable.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Citrus Limonum—*Lemon*. This small size tree is extensively cultivated in Southern Europe and elsewhere for its well-known fruit. Lemon fruits are very largely used for confectionery, etc. The rind yields a very valuable essential oil and citric acid; for making candied lemon peel it is largely used.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Citrus Medica—*Citron*. A small tree largely cultivated in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean region for its fruit. The latter grow to a large size, sometimes 10 to 12 inches in diameter. The thick rind is the part used, this being prepared in brine, preserved in sugar, and largely employed in confectionery, preserves, marmalade, etc.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Clausena Wampi—*Wampee*. A small ornamental tree. Its pale yellow berries have a strong aromatic acid taste, and are made into preserves, being also used as well as the fragrant leaves for flavouring meat curries.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 10s. per 100.

Cynometra Cauliflora—*Nam-Nam*. A shrubby much branched tree. The fruit is a one-seeded, much wrinkled, thick fleshy pod, and produced in large numbers on the trunk and sometimes on lower portions of branches, and is of a pleasant sweet sub-acid taste, not unlike an apple. The fruit is best for stewing, but is also used for pickling; and the large flat seed yields a medicinal oil. The tree thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 10s. per 100.

Dialium Ovoideum—*Velvet Tamarind*. A tall tree. From near the end of the branches the dark brown velvety fruits are produced in clusters. It has an agreeable acid taste, and is considered a delicacy by the natives, who use it in the preparation of a fine chutney. The tree affords a handsome dark red timber.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Dillenia Indica—A medium size tree with large leaves. It produces a profusion of large round green fruits, each is about 3 inches in diameter, being juicy and very acid. The fruit is used for making jelly and a cooling drink, also as a vegetable in curries. The tree is often cultivated both for ornament and for its fruit.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Diospyros Discolor—*Velvet Apple*. A small tree, the beautiful bright pink velvety-looking fruit is of the size of an apple, and is very sweet.

Seeds £1 per 100. Plants £5 10s. per 100.

Durio Zibethinus—*Durian*. A very large handsome pyramid-shaped tree. Fruits produced on the older branches, and weighs from 5 to 10 lbs. The cream-coloured pulp surrounding the seed is the edible portion. This is most highly prized by the Malays and other oriental races, and is also relished by Europeans, who acquire a taste for it. Firminger described it as "resembling blanc-mange, delicious as the finest cream"; whilst Mr. Russel Wallace considered that "eating durians is a sensation worth a voyage to the East". The large seeds may be roasted and eaten like chestnuts. Thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation. Fruits in season July to August.

Seeds £1 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Elæocarpus Serratus—*Ceylon Olive*. A handsome medium-sized tree, producing smooth oval green fruits of the size of olives, which they closely resemble. The fleshy portion surrounding the seed is palatable. In an unripe state it is excellent for pickles. The tree thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Eugenia Jambos—*Roseapple*. A medium-sized handsome tree. Its fragrant pinkish-white or rose-coloured large fruits, is of a sweetish-acid taste, and is used in preserves. The tree thrives up to 3,000 ft.

Seeds 8s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Eugenia Javanica—*Wax Jambo*. A small ornamental tree, producing clusters of very pretty, shining, rose-pink fruits. The pulp is edible, but is usually too fragrant and pithy to be agreeable. Thrives up to 3,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Eugenia Micheli—*Brazil Cherry*. A small shrubby tree, bearing small round and ribbed fruits about one inch in diameter; the pulp is edible. It is used for making jelly and preserves. Thrives up to 3,000 ft.

Seeds 8s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Feronia Elephantum—*Woodapple*. A good-sized tree. It bears round fruits about the size of a large cricket ball. The fruit is generally relished by the natives, and is also used for medicine. Elephants too are fond of it.

Seeds 3s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Flacourtia Cataphracta—A small thorny tree, producing round berries of the size of large cherries, purplish in colour. The fruit can be made into a very agreeable jam or preserve.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Flacourtia Inermis—*Lovi-Lovi*. An ornamental thornless tree, bearing in great profusion bright red, cherry-like berries. The attractive looking fruits are deceptive, being exceedingly sour; but they make excellent jelly, and may be used in preserves.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Gracinia Cambogia—A moderate-sized handsome tree, with round head and drooping branches. The fruit is of the size of an orange, sweetish acid taste. The thick succulent shell is dried and largely employed for preserving fish, being made into a brine with salt; also used as a substitute for lime in curries. Thrives up to 2,000 ft.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Gracinia Mangostana—*Mangosteen*.—A moderate-sized tree with large leathery leaves. Its globular purplish brown fruit, about the size of an apple, is famed as one of the most delicious fruits of the tropics, some writers describing it as “perhaps the most luscious fruit in the world partaking of the flavour of the strawberry and the grape”. It thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 15s. per 100. Plants £6 per 100.

Garcinia Xanthochymus—A symmetrical, cone-shaped bushy tree. The handsome yellow fruit is produced in great abundance, and is of the form and size of a small orange. The yellow juicy pulp is of an acid but refreshing taste. Thrives up to 3,000 ft. or more.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Lansium Domesticum—*Langsat*. A moderate-sized ornamental tree. It bears long pendant clusters of closely packed berries. The fruit is eaten fresh or variously prepared, and Dr. Ward described it as one of the finest fruits of the Malayan Peninsula. Thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Mangifera Indica—*Mango*. A medium tree of a spreading and quick-growing habit. The fruit weighs 6 oz. to 2 or 3 lbs. The mango is the fruit *par excellence* of India. Here it may be considered an article of food as well as dessert, while it also enters largely in the preparation of chutneys and other preserves. Thrives up to 4,000 ft. elevation.

Varieties. Three are numerous varieties of mangos in cultivation. Fruits varying in point of flavour, juiciness, and succulency, etc. Different names are given to the same varieties in different countries. In Ceylon there commonly occurs the following five distinct types, but of these there are numerous sub-varieties:—

Rupee—Very large and somewhat round-pulp, luscious, and free from fibre.

Seeds £2 per 100. Plants £8 per 100.

Jaffna—Large oval fruit of excellent quality, free from fibre.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Parrot—Medium-sized oblong fruit with a distinct beak, piquant and pleasant flavour.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Bombay—Round and rather flat, very juicy, yellow when ripe.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Honey—A small roundish fruit of a very sweet flavour.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

The following are a few of selected varieties of Indian mango grafts :—

Alphonso—Fruits weigh about 12 oz., very sweet, and are said to be one of the best Indian mangos. Grafts 5s. each.

Raspuri—Fruits weigh about 1 lb. Fibreless, excellent taste. Grafts 4s. each.

Mulgova—Fruits weigh about 1½ lbs. Fibreless, very sweet. Grafts 4s. each.

Musa Sapientium—*Plantain*, or *Banana*. A small quick-growing tree with a herbacious stem composed of the succulent leaf stalks. As regards utility combined with magnificence this must be considered one of the most remarkable of tropical products. When the plant is about eighteen months old the enormous flower stalk issues from the centre of the crown of leaves and curves over with its own weight, the ovaries the flowers rapidly grow into large finger-like fruits, which are borne in combs. The banana fruit may be said to be to the inhabitants of the torrid zone what bread and potatoes are to those of the north temperate zone. It is a highly nutritious and easily digested food, containing practically all the elements necessary to the human body. According to the *Lancet*, the starch of the banana is much more digestible than are the cereal starches. The tree will grow in any ordinary good soil. It will thrive in a dry climate up to 5,000 ft. in sheltered valleys. The first bunches of fruit may be obtained about a year from the time of planting. Under good tillage an acre is considered to produce 300 to 400 or more bunches annually.

The following are the principal varieties extensively cultivated in Ceylon :—

Anamalu—Finger stout and long sub-acid, very large bunches. Suckers 2s. each.

Ambulhondarawala—Long clusters, fruits have sweet sour taste and medicinal properties. Suckers 1s. 6d. each.

Kolikuttu—Fruits about 6 inches long, large and stout, loose skinned, very sweet, produced in large bunches, realizes high price always. Suckers 2s. each.

Suwendel—Thin skinned, tender and sweet, considered the best in Ceylon, not commonly grown for the market. Suckers 3s. each.

Ratahondarawala—Thickly set combs, angular stout fingers, very sweet. Suckers 1s. 6d. each.

Ranel or Red Plaintain—Large red fingers, borne in huge clusters, coarse thick skinned, mealy. Suckers 3s. each.

Nephelium Lappaceum—*Rambutan*. A large handsome spreading tree, yielding a profusion of bright red or orange yellow fruits, produced in large clusters suspending from the ends of the branches, presenting a very ornamental effect. Each fruit is of the size of a large gooseberry, covered with large soft coloured spines, the interior being occupied by a seed surrounded by a layer of white opaque pulp, which is of a very agreeable taste.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Nephelium Litchi—*Litchi*. A small bushy tree, with handsome dense foliage. The fruit produced in clusters is of the size of a large plum, with a rough, warty rind, which becomes of a beautiful red tinge. The jelly-like pulp which covers the seed is of a very agreeable refreshing flavour. Thrives up to 3,500 ft. Litchi fruits are dried and preserved in China and Cochin China, from whence they are exported to Europe and America. Dried Litchis are of a sweetish acid taste.

Seeds 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Passiflora Quadrangularis—A strong quick-growing climber with large leaves and square stem. Its large fruit is not unlike a short vegetable marrow, and contains in its hollow centre a mass of purple, sweet-acid pulp mixed with the flat seeds. In the unripe state the succulent portion of the fruit may be boiled and used as a vegetable. The root is usually swollen and fleshy, and is eaten like a yam. Thrives up to 3,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Passiflora Edulis—*Passion Fruit* or *Sweet-Cup*. A perennial climber. It bears in great abundance a perfectly smooth oval fruit of the size of an hen's egg. Two crops a year are produced. The fruit contains in its hollow centre a quantity of fragrant sweet juicy pulp, inseparable from which are the small seeds; this when emptied out from the shell and beaten up in a glass with a pinch of bicarbonate of soda and sugar forms a delicious drink. Consignment of the fruits are occasionally exported from Australia and elsewhere to London, and usually secure fancy prices. The passion fruit may be cultivated successfully from 2,900 ft. upwards.

Seeds 6s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Persea Gratissima—*Avocado Pear* or *Alligator Pear*. A small tree. The fruit is a salad than dessert. It is of the form of a large pear with a very thin tender skin and contains in its hollow centre a large round fleshy seed; between this and the rind is a thick layer of greenish yellow pulp, of the consistency of firm butter, and somewhat resembling walnut in flavour. It is much esteemed by many people and considered wholesome. A good tree will bear about 1,000 fruits a year, and each fruit may weigh from 1 to 2 lbs.

Seeds £1 10s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Photinia Japonica—*Loquat*. A tree of medium size, with large handsome leaves. The fruits are of the size of crab apples, of a sweetish acid flavour, and are especially suited for stewing. The dingy white flowers are delightfully fragrant. The tree thrives from 2,000 to 5,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Phyllanthus Distichus—*Star-Gooseberry*. A small tree with long graceful feathery leaves. It bears a round-ribbed and acid fruit with a hard seed in the centre. The fruit is commonly used for pickling; cooked with sugar it makes a delicious preserve. A crop is produced twice a year.

Seeds 12s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Psidium Guvava—*Guava*. A spreading small tree, bearing large juicy fruit. They are used for stewing and for making tarts and jelly. Thrives up to 4,000 ft. or higher.

Seeds 2s. per 100. Plants £2 10s. per 100.

Psidium Cattleianum—*China Guava*. A small shrubby ornamental tree. The fruit is undoubtedly the most palatable of all guavas. It is of the size of a large greengage, deep claret-coloured when ripe, with soft juicy, purplish-red pulp, which has an agreeable flavour and has some resemblance of that of a strawberry. It is excellent for making tarts, jam, and jelly, and may also be eaten as dessert. Thrives up to 4,000 ft. elevation; producing two crops a year. With good cultivation the size and quality of the fruit is considerably improved.

Seeds 6s. per 100. Plants £5 10s. per 100.

Punica Granatum—*Pomegranate*. A small ornamental tree, with large beautiful scarlet flowers. Thrives especially near the sea, but also up to about 4,000 ft. elevation. The fruit is of the size of a large apple. The succulent, juicy coating of the numerous seeds is of a sweet acid taste.

Seeds 2s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Sandoricum Indicum—*Santol*. A handsome lofty tree, producing large clusters of yellow globular fruits not unlike small oranges. The soft white aril covering the seeds is of an agreeable acid and refreshing taste; fermented and mixed with rice, an intoxicating drink is prepared from it. Thrives up to about 2,000 ft. elevation, and is worth growing for its ornamental effect.

Seeds 8s. per 100. Plants £3 10s. per 100.

Spondies Dulcis—*Otaheite-Apple*. A small tree with handsome foliage. The oval-shaped fruit is of the size of a large hen's egg. It has a large seed in the centre which is covered with coarse fibre and a scanty with a flavour like that of a mango. A high reputation given the fruit by several writers. They are used for stewing and making jam or preserves.

Seeds 8s. per 100. Plants £4 10s. per 100.

Tamarindus Indicus—*Tamarind*. A large handsome upright tree with fine feathery foliage. It is largely cultivated both for its shade and excellent timber, as well as for its fruit. The latter consists of a brownish pod, 3 to 6 inches long, containing a mass of sweetish acid brown pulp. These pods

form the "tamarind" of commerce, which are used in Europe as well as in native medicine. It is esteemed for flavouring various dishes, while tamarind-wine and other cooling beverages are prepared from it. It is also made into a brine for preserving fish. Thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 4s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Terminalia Catappa—*Indian Almond*. A spreading tree with large leathery leaves. The fruit is of the size of a plum, and contains a kernel, which is much relished and used for dessert. Ferminger considered it to be "beyond comparison the most delicious nut of any kind the country affords". Bears two crops of fruit annually. Thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 8s. per 100. Plants £3 per 100.

Vangueria Edulis—*Voa Vanga*. A small shrubby tree producing a large number of round green fruits of the size of a small apple; the sweetish acid juicy pulp suggesting the flavour of "Velvet Tamarind". The large shining leaves are used in medicine in Madagascar. Thrives up to 2,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 15s. per 100. Plants £4 per 100.

Zizyphus Jujuba—*Jujube*. A small thorny spreading tree. The fruit, which is borne in great profusion, is of the size of a large cherry; it is rather acid in flavour, and afford a very nice dish when cooked with sugar. The tree thrives up to 3,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 5s. per 100. Plants £5 per 100.

Tropical Vegetable and Food Products.

✓ **Amaranthus Oleraceus**—An annual herbaceous plant. The tender leaves and succulent portion of the stem are boiled and used in curries and other ways. The succulent tops of the stems and branches are said to be served up as a substitute for asparagus. The *Amaranthus* is easily cultivated, being readily raised from seeds.

Seeds (very small) 1s. per oz.

Arachis Hypogaeae—*Ground Nut*. A small annual trailing plant. The cultivation and export of ground-nuts is an important industry. It is a suitable inter-crop with stationary products, as rubber, etc. Ground-nuts are largely cultivated as an article of food and for the valuable oil obtained from the seed. The nut (seeds) are prepared and used for food in numerous ways. In the United States they are used largely in confectionery, being also roasted and eaten as dessert. Ground-nut oil is one of the best of salad oils, being considered equal to olive oil; but its chief use is in manufacture of toilet soaps, pomades, cold cream, etc. After the expression of the oil from the seed the residue forms a valuable manure or cattle food. From 70 to 80 lbs. seeds should be sufficient to sow an acre. About 3 to 5 months are required to produce a crop. The yield per acre vary from 4,000 to 6,000 lbs.

Seeds 1s. per 100.

✓ **Basella Alba**—*Ceylon Spinach*. A slender climbing perennial, with succulent stems and leaves, which are used as a pot herb or spinach, for which they are a good substitute. It is relished by natives and Europeans.

Seeds 1s. per 100.

Benincasa Cerifera—*Ash Pumpkin* or *White Gourd*. A large handsome oval-shaped gourd. It is used as vegetable in curries, etc., also candied as a sweetmeat. Thrives up to 4,000 ft. elevation.

Seeds 4s. per 100.

Citrullus Vulgaris—*Water Melon*. A smooth fruit about 10 inches long. The fruit is of a dark green colour, with a reddish juicy flesh, which is cool and refreshing in the hot season.

Seeds 6s. per 100.

Cucumis Melo—*Musk Melon*. A round fruit about 6 inches diameter and 8 inches long. The fruits are very highly priced on account of their luscious flavour.

Seeds 12s. per 100.

Cucumis Sativus Var—*Ceylon Cucumber*. A thick cylindrical smooth fruit 10 to 15 inches long and about 4 inches in transverse diameter. The fruit is either cooked and used as a vegetable, or peeled and sliced in salads, being an excellent substitute for the English Cucumber.

Seeds 3s. per 100.

Cucurbita Maxima—*Pumpkin*. A large globular gourd. It is one of the best native vegetables. During the detention of the Boer prisoners of war in Ceylon a great demand for pumpkins sprang up. The fruit grows to an enormous size, weighing up to 400 lbs. each. The hardened shells are sometimes made into vessels and ornaments.

Seeds 5s. per 100.

Canna Edulis—*Queensland Arrowroot*. A herbaceous perennial. The starchy tuberous roots, 6 to 10 of which are usually produced by a plant, are either cooked as a vegetable or made into flour. It is extensively cultivated in Queensland, where it furnishes the Queensland arrowroot of commerce. It is

considered one of the best starchy foods for invalids and infants. The starch is also largely used for laundry purposes. The market price of this product in London ranges from about 4*d.* to 6*d.* per lb. The yield is said to vary from 15 to 20 cwt. of prepared article per acre. The crop takes from 6 to 8 months to come to maturity.

Tubers 12*s.* per 100.

Cajanus Indicus—*Pigeon Pea*. A shrub of about 5 ft. high. The seeds are about the size of small peas, and are almost a universal article of food. The dried split peas are much used in curries, vegetable soup, etc. About 8 lbs. seeds is required to plant an acre, and the crop is ready for harvesting in six months from the time of sowing. The yield may be as high as 2,000 lbs. per acre.

Seeds 3*s.* per lb.

Canavalia Gladiata—*Sword Bean*. A climbing bean, bearing large flat, sword-shaped pods, fully 12 to 18 inches long. These when young are sliced and boiled as vegetable, also used in pickles. It is considered by some Europeans the nicest vegetable in India.

Seeds 6*s.* per 100.

Cicer Arietinum—*Chick Pea*. An annual, about 1 ft. high, much cultivated as a food crop. The pea-like seeds are used either fried or boiled in curries, and are considered very nutritious. Roasted and ground they are sometimes used as a substitute for coffee.

Seeds 3*s.* per lb.

Dolichos Diflorus—*Horse Grain*. A semi-erect annual bearing small curved pods. It is grown extensively, both as fodder and food crop, and also a green manure crop for ploughing into the soil.

Seeds 2*s.* per 100.

Dioscorea—*Yams*. Are largely cultivated, and they form a standard article of diet with all classes, the best varieties being even preferred to good potatoes. Yams are easily cultivated, and thrive up to an elevation of about 3,000 ft. The crop is ready for harvesting in seven months. Yams can be cooked and prepared for food in various ways, being either roasted, baked, or boiled and steamed, etc. *Varieties*: There are numerous varieties of yams, among the choicest varieties are :—

Kiri-kondol, Hingurala, Japana-ala, Ja-ala, Kukul-ala, Angili-ala, Vel-ala, Udella, Hiritala, Katukukulala, Katu-ala. Tubers of all the above varieties at 15s. per 100.

Glycine Hispida—*Soya Bean*. An erect annual about 1½ ft. The pods contain 2 to 4 seeds each, which are a nutritious food and a standard diet with the Chinese and Japanese. The seeds are cooked and prepared for food in numerous ways, being either boiled, roasted, or ground into flour. They contain no starch, and are consequently used as a diet for diabetic patients. In America and on the Continent they are sometimes used as a substitute for or adulterating coffee. The famous soya-sauce, said to be the basis of many popular sauces made in Europe, is made from these seeds. A useful domestic oil is also obtained from them, and a residual cake resulting from the expression of the oil forms a nutritious cattle food. Recently a considerable demand has arisen, chiefly in England, for the seed for the purpose of supplying oil for soap-making, etc. The present quotation for the seed in England is about £9 per ton. The crop may be ready for picking in about six weeks from the time of sowing. Thrives up to 3,000 elevation.

Seeds 6s. per 100.

Hibiscus Esculentus—*Ladies' Fingers*. An annual 2 to 3 ft. high, bearing erect horn-like pods, growing from 5 to 12 inches long, and when tender are an agreeable vegetable; when boiled they are of a mucilaginous consistency, and are used for thickening soups or in salads.

Seeds 1s. per 100.

Ipomea Bona-nox—*Moon Flower*. A perennial climber, the fleshy calycas of which are used as a vegetable for curries, soups, etc.

Seeds 4s. per 100.

Ipomea Batatas—*Sweet Potato*. A creeper bearing succulent tuberous roots which are a tasty and nutritious article of food, being sometimes preferred by Europeans to the common or Irish potato. Thrives up to 4,000 ft. elevation. The crop is ready for harvesting about three months from the time of planting. A yield of about 5 tons of tubers per acre may be expected.

Tubers 5s. per 100.

Lagenaria Vulgaris—*Bottle Gourd*. One of the most popular of native vegetables. The fruit is from 16 to 24 inches long. The unripe fruits when boiled are a palatable vegetable; when ripe and seasoned the shell becomes very hard and durable, and in this state is commonly made into vessels used for carrying water, etc.

Seeds 8s. per 100.

Luffa Acutangula—*Vetakolu*. A climbing goard, bearing fruits 10 to 18 inches long. Dr. Roxburg said of this vegetable fruit: "Peeled, boiled, and dresssd with butter, pepper, and salt, it is little inferior to green peas". The fruit is much used by the natives both in curries and as a vegetable.

Seeds 6s. per 100.

Moringa Pterygosperma—*Horse Radish Tree*. A short slender tree. The roots are used as a substitute for horse-radish, the leaves for vegetable curries as well as for seasoning and in pickles. The long unripe pods ("drumsticks") are commonly used as curry vegetable, being boiled and cut up like beans. The flowers and bark are used in medicine, and a valuable oil known as "oil of Ben" is obtained in India from the seed.

Seeds 10s. per 100.

Manihot Atilissima—*Tapioca* or *Cassava*. A shrub 6 to 8 ft. high. The cassava is cultivated in all tropical countries either as food for man and stock or for manufacture of starch. The large tuberous roots are cooked and used as vegetable or made into cassa meal and bread. The tapioca of commerce is obtained by a process of grating and sifting of the tubers. When the tubers are used as vegetable, it is especially important that they be fresh. In the Straits it has in many cases overgrown as a catch crop in young rubber plantations. Thrives at all elevations up to 3,000 ft. The tubers are ready for harvesting in eight months from date of planting. A good crop is considered to yield from 10 to 15 tons or more tubers per acre, a single plant often producing from 30 to 50 lbs. The yield of prepared tapioca varies from 1,600 to 2,600 lbs. per acre.

Tubers 10s. per 100.

Marnata Arundinacea—*Bermuda Arrowroot*. A small herbaceous plant. The white starchy underground tubers are either used as a vegetable or (by a process of washing, grating, and sifting) made into arrowroot. The arrowroot of commerce is obtained from these. The plant will thrive from sea level to about 3,000 ft. The tubers are ready for harvesting in from 8 to 10 months from the time of planting. It is estimated that an acre will produce on an average about 5 tons of fresh tubers, which contains about 20 per cent. of dry starch, yielding a return of about 20 cwt. of prepared arrowroot per acre. Arrowroot fetches at present about 3d. to 4d. per lb. wholesale.

Tubers 6s. per 100.

Modordica Charantia—*Carilla Fruit*. A rather slender vine, bearing an oval warty fruit 6 to 12 inches long. The fruit is much relished as a curry vegetable and pickled.

Seeds 5s. per 100.

Mucuna Niva—*Lyon Bean*. A climbing bean, with stout pods. A most excellent vegetable for the table.

Seeds 3s. per 100.

Phaseolus Mungo—*Green Gram*. A small annual. The green pods are eaten as a vegetable, but it is the ripe pulse that is valued, this being cooked and used in various forms like dhal. The grain has a pleasant taste, and is regarded as a wholesome and nutritious food. The straw as well as the pulse is valued as a food for cattle and horses. About 400 lbs. of grain per acre may be obtained.

Seeds 3s. per lb.

Psophocarpus Tetragonolobus—*Wing Bean* or *Princess Bean*. A strong growing climber, bearing peculiar four-cornered pods about 8 inches long. They are cooked when green, and usually much relished.

Seeds 8s. per 100.

Plectranthus Tuberosus—*Country Potato*. A small herbaceous plant. The small underground tubers are used either as a vegetable in curries or boiled like potatoes.

Tubers 4s. per 100.

Sesbania Grandiflora—A small quick-growing tree, bearing large pendulous flowers, the fleshy petals of which are esteemed for use in curries and soups; both the flowers and tender leaves are very palatable when fried. The bark, leaves, and flowers are medicinal.

Seeds 1s. per 100.

Trichosanthes Anguina—*Snake Gourd*. A quick-growing climbing gourd, bearing long cylindrical green fruits of about 5 to 8 ft. long. In an unripe state these pods are sliced and cooked in the manner of French beans, being also largely used as curry vegetable.

Seeds 10s. per 100.

Vinga Sinensis—*Yard Long Bean*. An annual climbing bean bearing long narrow, plain, cord-like pods, of about 2 to 3 ft. in length. They are used like French beans, and the ripe seeds also are eaten.

Seeds 2s. per 100.



